GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2179
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
NEW AIRPORTS AT KOKRAJHAR
SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sanction a new Airport at Kokrajhar and to revive the erstwhile Rupshi Airport in Lower Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a), (b) & (c): State Government of Assam had identified a site in village Chandmari near Kokrajhar suitable for development of an airport for ATR-72 operations. However, due to strong objection from the Forest & Environment Department for transfer of this land to Bodoland Council, the plan for an airport in Kokrajhar could not materialise. A Committee has been set up by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to examine necessity and feasibility of construction of a new domestic airport in the North East region including at Kokrajhar.

In view of the very high expenditure involved in revival of Rupsi airport, absence of demand from Airlines for operations and the serious security concern of this area, AAI has no plan for revival of this airport.